



February 24, 2015

U.S. Department of Justice
Western District of Pennsylvania
United States Post Office & Courthouse
700 Grant Street
Suite 4000
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: (412) 894-7400
Fax: (412) 644-4549

Re: United States v. Defendant(s) Abiodun Tijani, Funmilayo Aliyu, Bola Peters, Samuel Sobaloju, Xerxes Shevar, Gcobisa Kehle, Loyiso Kula, Saburi Adeyemi, Abiodun Bakre, Doherty Kushimo, Robert Wireko, Nana Baffour, Michael Idowu Olugbade, Daniel Freeman, Adebola Mejule, Alaire Sanya, Adetunji Gbadegeshi, Kwame Asamoah
Case Number 2012R00721 and Court Docket Number 14-CR-00012

The enclosed information is provided by the United States Department of Justice Victim Notification System (VNS). As a victim witness professional, my role is to assist you with information and services during the prosecution of this case. I am contacting you because you were identified by law enforcement as a victim during the investigation of the above criminal case. 18 defendants were indicted by a federal Grand Jury in Erie Pennsylvania for their role in obtaining credit cards, federal tax refunds and the opening of bank accounts using stolen identities.

Charges have been filed against defendant(s) Xerxes Shevar, Gcobisa Kehle, Loyiso Kula, Abiodun Tijani, Funmilayo Aliyu, Bola Peters, Samuel Sobaloju, Daniel Freeman, Nana Baffour, Kwame Asamoah, Doherty Kushimo, Abiodun Bakre, Saburi Adeyemi, Adetunji Gbadegeshi, Adebola Mejule, Michael Idowu Olugbade, Robert Wireko, Alaire Sanya. The lead prosecutor for this case is Christian A. Trabold. The main charge is categorized as Other White Collar Crime/Fraud.

Victims of all crimes under federal investigation are entitled to services under the Victims' Rights and Restitution Act, including notification of court events. For further details, please refer to Title 42 United States Code section 10607 or the brochure posted at <https://www.notify.usdoj.gov>.

Now that charges have been filed in federal court, victims of the charges filed are, in addition, entitled to the following rights, according to the Crime Victims' Rights Act, Title 18 United States Code section 3771: (1) The right to be reasonably protected from the accused; (2) The right to reasonable, accurate, and timely notice of any public court proceeding, or any parole proceeding, involving the crime or of any release or escape of the accused; (3) The right not to be excluded from any such public court proceeding, unless the court, after receiving clear and convincing evidence, determines that testimony by the victim would be materially altered if the victim heard other testimony at that proceeding; (4) The right to be reasonably heard at any public proceeding in the district court involving release, plea, sentencing, or any parole proceeding; (5) The reasonable right to confer with the attorney for the Government in the case; (6) The right to full and timely restitution as provided in law; (7) The right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay; and (8) The right to be treated with fairness and with respect for the victim's dignity and privacy.

Please understand that these rights apply only to victims of the counts charged in federal court, and thus you may not be able to exercise all of these rights if the crime of which you are a victim was not charged. In any

event, we will continue to provide you with notifications and services unless you tell us not to. We will make our best efforts to ensure you are provided the rights and services to which you are entitled. It is important to keep in mind that the defendant(s) are presumed innocent until proven guilty and that presumption requires both the Court and our office to take certain steps to ensure that justice is served. While our office cannot act as your attorney or provide you with legal advice, you can seek the advice of an attorney with respect to the rights above or other related legal matters.

Additionally, please be aware that most criminal cases are resolved by a plea agreement between the United States Attorney's Office and the defendant. You should also know that it is not unusual for a defendant to seek to negotiate a plea agreement shortly before a trial is scheduled to begin. Plea agreements can be made at any time and as late as the morning of trial, leaving little or no opportunity to provide notice to you of the date and time of the plea hearing. If the court schedules a plea hearing in this case, we will use our best efforts to notify you of available information as soon as practicable. If you want to inform the prosecutor of your views regarding potential plea agreements, or any other aspect of the case, please contact the prosecutor assigned to this case or me.

Current information regarding the status of this case can be found at www.notify.usdoj.gov or by calling the Victim Notification System (VNS) Call Center at 1-866-DOJ-4YOU (1-866-365-4968). You will need to enter your Victim Identification Number (VIN) and your Personal Identification Number anytime you contact the Call Center. Additional information can be found at www.justice.gov/usao/paw, which is the website for the Western District of Pennsylvania United States Attorney's Office. Through the Victim Notification System (VNS) we will continue to provide you with updated scheduling and event information as the case proceeds through the criminal justice system. You may obtain current information about this case on the VNS website at <https://www.notify.usdoj.gov> or from the VNS Call Center at 1-866-DOJ-4YOU (1-866-365-4968) (TDD/TTY: 1-866-228-4619) (International: 1-502-213-2767). In addition, you may use the Call Center or Internet to update your contact information and/or change your decision about participation in the notification program.

For many VNS registrants email will provide the most timely notification. VNS does not currently have an email address for you. You can provide VNS an email address by accessing the VNS Internet Web page using the login information provided below. By entering your email as part of the VNS registration process future notifications will be delivered by email, except in rare circumstances when you might also receive a letter from VNS. In order to continue to receive notifications, it is your responsibility to keep your contact information current.

You will use your Victim Identification Number (VIN) and Personal Identification Number (PIN) anytime you contact the Call Center and the first time you log into VNS on the website. If you are receiving notifications with multiple victim ID/PIN codes please contact the VNS Call Center. In addition, the first time you access the VNS website, you will be prompted to enter your last name (or business name) as currently contained in VNS. The name you should enter is Calder Pacheco.

Remember, VNS is an automated system and cannot answer questions. If you have other questions which involve this matter, please contact this office at the number listed above.

Sincerely,

DAVID J. HICKTON
United States Attorney

Gail McLaughlin

Gail McLaughlin
Victim Witness Coordinator